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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,396	02/05/2002	Richard St.Clair Bailey	MS1-1006US	4779
22801	7590	05/13/2005	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES PLLC 421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500 SPOKANE, WA 99201			ROSWELL, MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 05/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/072,396

**Applicant(s)**

BAILEY ET AL.

**Examiner**

Michael Roswell

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20050107</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claim contains the limitation "a display state of the display controls is determined", which has not been described in the specification as to suitable enable one skilled in the art to make or use the invention. Applicant's remarks of 6 January 2005 disclose Figure 1c and the accompanying text in the specification as enabling claim language related to "display states". The examiner has reviewed the Figure and text and was unable to discern how the disclosure is enabling for determining the display state of display controls.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 34 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over “WinAmp2: Winamp’s Subwindows”, at <http://www.winamp-faq.de/english/wa2/documentation/sub.htm>, hereinafter Winamp 2, as provided in the previous Office Action, and “Skin (computing)”, hereinafter Skin, as taken from Wikipedia.org, and provided in the previous Office Action.

Winamp teaches computer-readable media containing instructions for receiving data from a graphical user interface program to determine properties of a display list in the graphical user interface, the display list having one or more display controls that are selectable by a user (taught as the use of a playlist scroll bar, playlist control buttons, scrolling keys, and selectable playlist elements that allow the user to control the playlist, at page 2 of the Winamp 2 reference), accessing a data source that contains one or more display list elements that are displayable in the display controls, a display control being able to display one display list element at a time and populating each display control with a display list element from the data source according to one or more scrolling events received, (taught as the ability to populate the playlist with playlist items and control the items one at a time through user interaction). Furthermore, the ability to “skin” the Winamp player insures a separation of the configuration of the graphical user interface and computer-readable media. Inherently, a display state of the display controls is determined, as all interactive elements have states, the states being determined by the program itself or the user. Further, Winamp teaches a list manager receiving events from the display controls and forwarding the events to the data source so that the data source can manage the display state beyond the lifetime of a display list element in a display control (taught as the “Load List Menu” of page 2, that allows the saving, loading, and clearing of lists through user controls and interaction). The Winamp instructions are also executable in

different applications to provide the display list, as there have been multiple versions of Winamp 2.x, all allowing skinnable user interfaces.

However, Winamp fails to explicitly teach the instructions being executable on different computing platforms.

Skin teaches the practice of altering the graphical user interface of a particular program as a user sees fit. Furthermore, Skin teaches applications such as Opera and Mozilla as utilizing a cross-platform GUI toolkit (see ¶ 2).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Winamp and Skin before him at the time the invention was made to modify the "skin" functionality of Winamp to include the cross-platform capabilities of Opera and Mozilla.

One would be motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of easily alterable interfaces independent of the platform the software is running on. See Skin, ¶ 2.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Roswell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4055. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Roswell  
5/3/2005

  
**RAYMOND J. BAYERL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 2173**